

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claim 13 has been cancelled. Independent Claim 14 has been amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, additional searching and examination are not required.

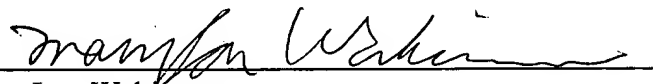
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims (Claims 1-12 and 14-16) remain in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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